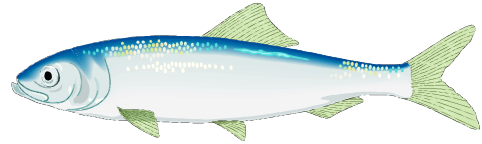


**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director*



Contact:
James Jackson, Area Biologist
Geoff Spalinger, Asst. Area Biologist
Joe Dinnocenzo, Asst. Area Biologist
Aaron Tiernan, Fishery Biologist
Phone: (907) 486-1830
Fax: (907) 486-1847

Kodiak Area Office
211 Mission Road
Kodiak, AK. 99615

Date Issued: April 28, 2012
Time: 10:00 a.m.

**KODIAK COMMERCIAL HERRING SAC ROE FISHERY NEWS RELEASE # 11
For Emergency Order #4-FH-K-13-12**

The following areas will **open** to **both seine and gillnet gear** for commercial herring sac roe fishing **beginning at noon Tuesday, May 1, 2012.**

<u>Afognak Districts:</u>	<u>GHL</u>	<u>Alitak District:</u>	<u>GHL</u>	<u>Eastside District:</u>	<u>GHL</u>
(NA50) Tonki Bay	40	(AL20) Inner Alitak	100	(EA21) Three Saints Bay	75
(SA10-30) Izhut, Kitoi, and MacDonalds Lagoon	100	(AL21, 22) Inner and Outer Deadman bays	400	(EA24) Barling Bay	100
		(AL30) Sulua Bay	75	(EA50) Outer Ugak	400
		(AL40) Lower Olga-Moser	50	(EA51) Inner Ugak	150
<u>Uganik District:</u>		(AL41) East Upper Olga Bay	75		
(UG20) Viekode Bay	25	(AL50) West Upper Olga Bay	75	<u>Inner Marmot District:</u>	
(UG21) Terror Bay	30			(IM40) Kizhuyak Bay	150
(UG31) W. Uganik Passage	50				

Purse seine fishing periods will be **noon to 9:00 p.m. on odd-numbered days, and 9:00 a.m. to noon on even-numbered days**, followed by a 24 hour closed period.

Fishing periods for gillnet gear will begin at **noon, Tuesday, May 1, 2012** and remain **open until further notice.**

The following areas will open or remain open to **only gillnet gear until further notice**:

<u>Afognak Districts:</u>	<u>GHL</u>	<u>Uganik District:</u>	<u>GHL</u>	<u>Eastside District:</u>	<u>GHL</u>
(WA10) Raspberry Strait	10	(UG32) NE Arm Uganik	350	(EA42) Shearwater Bay	75
(WA20) Malina Bay	10	(UG33) East Arm Uganik		(EA44) Inner Kiliuda Bay	50
(NA30) Perenosa Bay	10	(UG34) South Arm Uganik			
<u>Northeast District:</u>		<u>Uyak District:</u>			
(NE10) Womens Bay	50	(UY32) Browns Lagoon	50		
<u>Inner Marmot District:</u>		(UY40) Zachar Bay	25		
(IM20) Anton Larsen	15	(UY50) Spiridon Bay	10		
(IM30) Sharatin Bay	30				

The **Danger Bay Section (SA40)** will remain **closed** to both gear types. The R/V K-Hi-C will be stationed in the **Danger Bay area** and test fishing for **seine gear** in the **Danger Bay Section** may begin at **9:00 a.m. Monday April 30, 2012.**

The combined Village Island/Uganik Bay (UG 32, 33, and 34) sections will remain **closed** to **seine gear** until the department can be available to monitor the fishery. There will be a 24 hour notice given prior to any test fishing in the **combined Village Island/Uganik Bay sections**.

The Inner Uyak Bay section (UY30) will remain closed to both gear types until the department can be available to monitor the fishery. There will be a 24 hour notice given prior to any test fishing in the **Inner Uyak Section**.

Beginning May 1, all Kodiak commercial sac roe herring fishermen that wish to continue fishing after April 30 must be registered with the department. Registration began on April 25 and may be accomplished either in the Kodiak fish and game office, or with fish and game personnel when available in the field. Communication is critical to effectively manage the commercial herring fishery. **Herring fishermen will need to contact the department prior to fishing in an area and when herring are harvested. Failure to do so will result in area closures.**

The current estimate of the total harvested herring in the Kodiak Management Area is approximately 2,500 tons.

As Previously Announced:

The following areas are closed to commercial herring fishing for the remainder of the season:

- The East and West Sitkalidak section and Outer Kiliuda Bay section of the Eastside District.

EXPLORATORY AREAS

The following sections are designated as EXPLORATORY, and will be open to either gear type, with differential fishing periods by gear type as outlined above for purse seine or gillnet gear:

Afognak Districts:

(WA20) Delphin Bay

(WA40) Bluefox Bay

Alitak District:

(AL60) Geese/Two Headed

Eastside District:

(EA10) Kaiugnak Bay

(EA20) SW Sitkalidak

(EA22) Newman Bay

(EA31) Tanginak Anchorage

Mainland Districts:

(NM20) Inner Kukak Bay

(MM10) Inner Katmai Bay

(MM30) Alinchak Bay

(MM40) Puale Bay

(MM50) Portage Bay

(SM10) Wide Bay

The remainder of the Kodiak Area will stay closed to commercial herring fishing for the entire sac roe season.

Guideline harvest levels and maps of open sections and gear assignments are available at the Kodiak office, in the herring sac roe fishery harvest strategy for the 2012 season. Fishermen are urged to check with their market and test their catch prior to landing herring. Determining if size or roe quality meets processor standards is the responsibility of fishermen and industry. It is anticipated that many small and green fish will be present on the grounds during the initial open fishing periods. Recent fishery information may be obtained by calling the Departments 24-hour record-a-phone at 486-4559.